

[Translation]

Electrification in Ratlam Division

5001. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the electrification of broad gauge and metre gauge lines and lines brought under diesel hauling in the Ratlam Division of the Western Railway during the years 1995-96 and 1996-97 and the demand and supply position of the coaches of each class therein;

(b) the kilometerage of the present broad gauge and metre gauge rail lines in Ratlam Railway Division and the estimated time period likely to be taken in the gauge conversion in each metre gauge section, section-wise;

(c) the proposals regarding the rail passenger service expansion on metre gauge during the said period; and

(d) the train-wise details of the metre gauge rail passenger service expansion undertaken during the last five years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No electrification works were taken in hand during 1995-96 and no new work has also been approved during 1996-97 in Ratlam Division as well as in Western Railway. No metre gauge lines are electrified.

During 1995-96 and 1996-97, the following sections have been fully dieselised:

1. Ajmer-Nimach (Ratlam Division)
2. Nimach-Ratlam (-do-)
3. Botad-Surendranagar
4. Bhavnagar-Paltana
5. Dhoda Jn.-Mutiva
6. Jatalsar-Warjalia

The following sections have been partially dieselised:

1. Veraval-Khijadia
2. Rajkot-Jatalsar

The requirement of coaches for any year is planned on all India basis taking into account the manufacturing capacity of production units. There after allotments are made to individual railways.

194 new coaches (BG) were supplied to Western Railway during 1995-96.

(b) Section-wise kilometreage data not readily available. In Ratlam Division the MG routes are from Ajmer to Khandwa. Of these gauge conversion is in progress between Nimach and Ratlam and is expected

to be completed in IXth Plan. The remaining sections are included in the first phase of the Action Plan under project 'Unigauge' and are slated to be taken up during the IXth plan period. Date of Completion would be fixed once the works are taken up.

(c) and (d) The details of Passenger Services provided on Metregauge on Ratlam Division during the last five years are as under:

YEAR	
1992-93	Nil
1993-94	Nil
1994-95	129/130 shuttle extended upto Bijaynagar w.e.f. 1.7.95
1995-96	69/70 Mhow-Indore Passenger introduced w.e.f. 5.2.96
1996-97	Nil

[English]

Rail Service from Krishnagar to Barddhaman

5002. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a long standing demand to run passenger service from Krishnagar to Barddhaman;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether due to heavy detention of the goods trains at Naihati, passengers services are not running smoothly;

(d) whether there is a proposal to construct a curve bypassing Naihati Railway Station through Jubili bridge to facilitate railway traffic on the said route; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) Some demands have been received for running a passenger train from Krishnagar to Bardhaman.

(c) Normally passenger trains are not detained for goods trains. However, sometimes due to accidents/equipment failure or other unavoidable reasons there is a disturbance in the smooth running of trains.

(d) and (e) There is no such proposal at present.

National Cooperative Union of India

5003. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the main objectives behind setting up of National Cooperative Union of India;

(b) the date on which it has come into force; and

(c) the progress made in achieving its aim so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) As per Bye-law No. 3 of the National Cooperative Union of India, the main objects of the National Cooperative Union of India are to promote and to develop the cooperative movement in India, to educate, guide and assist the people in their efforts to build up and expand the cooperative sector and to serve as an exponent of cooperative opinion in accordance with cooperative principles as enunciated in the first schedule to the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984.

(b) NCUI was registered on 1st November, 1989 under Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act 1984 and Rules 1985.

(c) National Cooperative Union of India has been monitoring an extensive nationwide cooperative education programme by supporting State Cooperative unions and also running special projects in the field of co-operative education at grass root level for agricultural cooperatives as well as artisans cooperatives. It is instrumental in educating more than 11 lakh members of cooperatives every year. Every three years the NCUI convenes a National Cooperative Congress where basic issues pertaining to cooperative movement are deliberated and recommendations are forwarded to the Government and other agencies for implementation. As an exponent of cooperative opinion in accordance with the cooperative principles, the NCUI has organised a wide range of seminars conferences, workshops for all types of persons involved in cooperative movement namely leaders, policy makers, executives, Government officials etc. For last two years it has been organising district level seminars in collaboration with State Cooperative Unions for sensitising the people at grass root level regarding impact of new economic policies on cooperatives. Nearly 150 district seminars have been organised so far. The NCUI has also maintained relationships with ICA, ILO, FAO to promote cooperative movement and international cooperative relations.

Retiring Room at Howrah and Sealdah

5004. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no Air conditioned Retiring Room at the Howrah and Sealdah:

(b) whether any steps have been taken to construct A.C. Retiring rooms at Howrah and Sealdah; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) While Howrah and Sealdah stations have no AC retiring room, 8 AC rooms are available in Rail Yatri Niwas at Howrah.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Construction of Railway Godowns etc.

5005. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes of the Government regarding the construction of railway godowns, Rail Yatri Niwas and development of the Railway Ticket Printing Press in Ajmer;

(b) whether Government have decided to construct a 'Rail Yatri Niwas' and a Railway godown in Ajmer; and

(c) if so, the full details thereof and the time by which these works would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) At present there is no scheme in this respect.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Accident on Bhusaval-Nagpur Line

5006. DR. G.R. SARODE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a train accident had occurred on Bhusaval-Nagpur line under Bhusaval Division of Central Railway on 8 June, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in addition to the financial assistance any other assistance is likely to be provided to the dependents of the railway employee victims; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) There was no train accident on Bhusaval-Nagpur section on 8.6.96, however there was a case of run over of railway employees by 7384 Up Express at the site of work of Ballast cleaning machine between Wadodra-Malkapur stations in which 6 railway employees were killed and 8 were injured.

(c) and (d) Apart from compensation to be given as per the Workman Compensation Act, the dependents of